

From IEMA Director James K. Joseph

Collaboration is key to virtually everything we do in public safety. As we plan, train, exercise, respond and recover, it's critical that we collaborate with others in both the public and private sectors. Working together, we are able to better serve the people in our communities and this great state.

We recently saw the results of collaboration between IEMA, the Central U.S. Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC), Southern Illinois University at Carbondale (SIU-C) and the University of Oklahoma (OU) with the unveiling of an earthquake kiosk in Carbondale. This unique educational tool – the first-ever in the Midwest – offers a high-tech way to bring earthquake risk and mitigation information to people living in southern Illinois. Situated in a high-traffic area of a mall in Carbondale, the kiosk's amazing graphics, NEWSPIN 360 technology and professionally-produced videos will undoubtedly grab the attention of many mall visitors.

This project required input from all parties: CUSEC, which found funding for development of the kiosk and provided scientific information; Harvey Henson, a geology professor at SIU-C, who managed the project; Scott Hodgson, of OU, who orchestrated the development and filming of more than 80 'how-to' earthquake mitigation videos; and IEMA, which awarded the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding that supported video production.

I also want to mention Mike Fleming, a teacher from Carterville, who stars in the videos. His calm yet knowledgeable demeanor assures people that they, too, can do these projects to make their homes more earthquake-resistant. Personally, I think he would give the hosts of "This Old House" a run for their money! And, of course, The Science Center and University Mall, who agreed to make this wonderful tool readily accessible to the public.

But the collaboration doesn't end here. We're planning to make these videos available to other states to support their efforts to increase public awareness about earthquake safety. And they will soon be available on the Ready Illinois website so that you can share them with your constituents as well.

More information about the kiosk can be found on page 2 of this issue.



Brian Blake (left), of CUSEC, and Dir. Joseph unveil the new earthquake kiosk Feb. 21 in Carbondale.

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Kiosk Will Help People Prepare Homes for Earthquakes

An interactive kiosk is now available to help residents of southern Illinois learn how to reduce damage to their homes and prevent injuries during an earthquake. The earthquake education kiosk was unveiled Feb. 21 at University Mall in Carbondale, where it will be available to southern Illinois residents for the next several months.

The kiosk includes information about earthquake hazards in Illinois, safety tips and more than 80 how-to videos that demonstrate methods for securing bookshelves, wall-hangings, water heaters and other household items.

The Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and the Central U.S. Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC) collaborated on the development of the first-ever earthquake kiosk in the Midwest. The kiosk was funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Motorola Solutions Foundation.

“While we can’t predict when the next major earthquake will occur, we can arm people with information to help them reduce both the damage to their homes and the risk of injury when the earth shakes,” said IEMA Director James K. Joseph during the unveiling event. “We are very excited to have this new tool to use in our efforts to help people in southern Illinois be better prepared for an earthquake.”

Videos on the kiosk provide simple, easy-to-follow instructions on how to secure household items. The kiosk uses the New Spin 360 program to provide a visually interesting way to access the information. Development of the videos was funded by IEMA through federal Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds.

The videos will be available on the Ready Illinois website (www.Ready.Illinois.gov) in the near future. IEMA also will be sharing the videos with emergency management agencies across the country to aid with earthquake mitigation education in other earthquake-prone areas.

The kiosk and the videos were developed by a team of earthquake experts including Dr. Harvey Henson from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale (SIUC) and Scott Hodgson from the University of Oklahoma.

In conjunction with the kiosk launch, IEMA, CUSEC and SUI-C hosted an earthquake presentation at The Science Center for area residents on the evening of Feb. 21.



The earthquake kiosk offers more than 80 videos that demonstrate ways to reduce earthquake damage to homes.



Brian Blake of CUSEC (right) discusses content of the earthquake kiosk with a member of the public (left), Director Joseph and IEMA Earthquake Planner Jason Williams.

IEMA Program Ensures Safe Transport of Spent Fuel

Illinois' central location in the U.S. means a large percentage of highway and rail shipments pass through the state each year. This, coupled with several nuclear power plants in the state, the nation's only commercial away-from-reactor spent fuel storage facility and a national laboratory, led the Illinois General Assembly in 1983 to mandate the development of a program to ensure the safe transportation of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive materials through the state.

Since its inception, IEMA's Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste Inspection and Escort Program has ensured the safe transport of more than 1,100 shipments of spent nuclear fuel, transuranic waste and highway route controlled quantities (HRCQ) of radioactive materials through the state.

Illinois' program was the first of its kind in the U.S. and has served as a model for programs developed in other states.

The program was originally designed to inspect and escort shipments of both high-level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel. However, with the opening of the U.S. Department of Energy's Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico in 1998, legislation was passed that added transuranic waste shipments to the types of shipments requiring inspection and escort.

In the aftermath of 9/11 attacks, heightened security measures were placed on high activity radioactive material shipments, which led to further state legislation mandating all HRCQ shipments be inspected and escorted.

Advanced notification for these shipments is required by state and federal law that, depending on the type of material being shipped, range from eight weeks to four days. Information provided must include point of origin, route to be taken, shipment description, date of departure and the estimated time of arrival at the state border, if coming from out of state.

For truck shipments, IEMA personnel coordinate with Illinois State Police (ISP) to arrange for officers to perform motor carrier safety inspection to ensure the



Staff from IEMA and ISP inspect shipments of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive materials before they travel through the state.

drivers, vehicle and shipping cask are in compliance with U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) regulations, and then to escort the shipment throughout the state.

IEMA inspectors conduct radiation surveys of the conveyance and shipping cask and check driver qualifications and packaging requirements to ensure compliance with USDOT regulations. The inspectors then join ISP to escort the shipment.

If the shipment will be transported by rail, the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) is notified. ICC track inspectors perform a physical inspection of the track within 24 hours prior to movement. In addition, an ICC rail hazardous materials inspector assists with inspection of the train and review of the shipping papers. As with the truck shipments, IEMA performs a suite of radiation surveys of the conveyance and shipping cask.

Once the train inspection is complete, IEMA, ICC and ISP personnel escort the train along parallel roads until it exits the state.

While there haven't been any accidents involving these shipments in Illinois, the escorts ensure trained professionals would be immediately on the scene to provide quick emergency response and prevent potentially harmful radiation exposure to members of the public.



IEMA personnel measure dose rates and check for removable contamination during inspections of shipment.

Senior Staff Spotlight: Kevin Moore

As IEMA's labor relations administrator, Kevin Moore is one of the first agency representatives new employees meet when they join IEMA and one of the last they see when they retire or move on to other employment. In between those times, it's likely employees will speak with Moore regarding questions about benefits, leaves and other human resource issues.

Moore is the agency's liaison to the state's Public Safety Shared Services office for human resource issues, consults with the agency's managers and senior staff members on hiring, employee evaluations and other human resources and labor relations issues, and represents the agency in collective bargaining with the state employees' union. He supports the agency's hiring process from development of job postings to processing of new hires and coordination of new employee orientation.

Moore graduated from Knox College with a degree in political science. He began working for the state of



Labor Relations Administrator
Kevin Moore

Illinois in 2003, first with the Governor's office and then with the departments of Corrections and Public Health.

In 2007, he joined IEMA's staff as legislative liaison and represented the agency to the Illinois General Assembly as well as to members of Illinois' Congressional delegation. During disasters, he kept legislators aware of the state's response activities affecting their constituents.

In 2012, Moore became the agency's labor relations administrator. For nearly a year, he juggled the duties of that position and the legislative liaison duties until his replacement came on board.

The son of two educators, the Decatur native served two terms on the Decatur Public School Board from 2005-2013.

Kevin and his wife Kate have one daughter, Ella, who is 2 ½ years old.

March is Severe Weather Preparedness Month in Illinois

According to the National Weather Service (NWS), Illinois ranks fifth in the U.S. for most tornadoes per square mile. To help people be better prepared for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms and flooding, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) is joining with the NWS and local emergency management agencies to observe Severe Weather Preparedness Month in March.

In addition, IEMA and the Illinois Emergency Services Management Association (IESMA) are sponsoring an online contest that offers Illinois residents a chance to win a portable weather alert radio. The "Weather Alert Radios Save Lives" contest will begin on March 1 and continue through March 31.

The weather alert radio contest will be available on the Ready Illinois website at www.Ready.Illinois.gov. A total of 100 portable weather alert radios will be awarded to randomly selected participants who register after reading information about the radios and

successfully completing a five-question quiz.

Winners will be announced in April. The radios were purchased by IESMA as part of an effort to increase the use of the devices in communities throughout Illinois.

IEMA and the NWS developed a Severe Weather Preparedness Guide, which provides information about tornadoes, severe storms, lightning and flooding along with recommended actions to take before, during and after each of these weather events. It is available on the Ready Illinois website at www.Ready.Illinois.gov.

Preparedness tips and information are also available through the Ready Illinois Facebook Page (www.facebook.com/ReadyIllinois) and Twitter Page (twitter.com/ReadyIllinois).

Tips for Preventing Burns at Home and in the Workplace

Editor's Note: IEMA's safety committee is dedicated to promoting a healthy and safe environment for all agency employees and visitors to our facilities. Starting with this issue of Inside IEMA, the committee will highlight safety topics to raise awareness of risks both in the workplace and at home.

According to the American Burn Association, more than 486,000 individuals seek medical attention for treatment of burn injuries in the U. S. and Canada each year. In 2014, there were 3,275 deaths due to fire and smoke inhalation injuries, many of which could have been prevented.

The primary causes of burn injuries include fire/flame, scalds, electricity and chemicals. Burns are nearly nine times more likely to occur at home than at work. Children, the elderly and the disabled are especially at risk for burn injuries. In fact, nearly one-third of all burn injuries occur in children under the age of 15.

Children under five are 2.4 times more likely than the general population to suffer burn injuries requiring emergency medical treatment. More than 96 percent of those who suffer burn injuries will survive. However, many survivors will sustain serious scarring, life-long physical disabilities and adjustment difficulties.

For these reasons, it's important to take steps to reduce burn risks. Start by creating and practicing an emergency plan for your home and workplace. In the event of fire, you may have only seconds to escape safely. Install, test and maintain smoke alarms in your home.

Make sure that anyone with a disability is included in your escape planning, and determine what assistance they would need to evacuate in the event of an emergency. Fire/smoke alarm accessories such as

strobe lights and bed/pillow shakers are available for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. It's also important to include supplies for treatment of burns in your first aid kit.

Parents in households with young children should take precautions, especially when cooking. Children should be kept away from electrical cords, outlets, gas fireplaces and appliances that get hot. Many burn injuries occur from children pulling hot foods out of microwaves. Teach children that matches and lighters are tools for adults only. If their clothes catch fire, make sure children know to stop, drop and roll.

Nearly one-third of burn center admissions are due to scald burns. There are several steps you can take to prevent these injuries, including the following:

- Set your water heater at 120 degrees Fahrenheit or just below the medium setting.
- Make sure bath water is at a safe temperature.
- Use oven mitts when cooking or handling hot food and drinks.
- Use the back burners and turn pot handles toward the rear of the stove where children cannot reach.
- Keep hot drinks out of reach of children, and never hold or carry a child while you have a hot drink or hot food in your hands.

For more information, visit the American Burn Association (www.ameriburn.org) or the National Scald Prevention Campaign (www.flashsplash.org).

(Information for this article is from the American Burn Association and National Scald Prevention Campaign websites.)



Dir. Joseph shared earthquake safety information with more than 350 sixth graders at Glenwood Intermediate School in Chatham on Feb. 28. The sixth graders have been studying earthquake science and safety in class recently.

Security Guard Goes Above and Beyond to Serve IEMA

IEMA's headquarters in Springfield is not your average office building. In addition to housing many IEMA personnel, the facility also contains the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and the Statewide Terrorism and Intelligence Center and supports numerous meetings each month.

Ensuring the safety and security of these functions is important, and IEMA is fortunate to have security guard Mark Mesojednik in charge of building security.

Mesojednik joined the Marine Corps after high school and became a field radio operator for 1st Recon Battalion as a Lance Corporal. In the private sector, he helped assemble the Hawk Missile Launcher for Northrup Aircraft. In 1986, he moved back to Illinois and settled in Ashland, where he worked for Ashland Elevator for several years.

When security at the Illinois State Capitol was increased following the tragic shooting of a security guard in 2004, Mesojednik entered the security field as an armed guard with a company contracted by the state to provide security services to state agencies.

In 2009, he began filing in one day a week at the State Emergency Operations Center and in 2013 became the facility's full-time guard. He currently is employed by Allied Universal Security Services. As an armed guard, Mesojednik is required to requalify to carry his weapon twice a year.

In addition to providing stellar surveillance of the building and everyone who enters it, Mesojednik often goes above and beyond his regular duties to help others. During a recent snowfall, he cleared snow off



Mark Mesojednik lends a helping hand to IEMA employees during a recent snowfall.

several cars in the parking lot. He also has helped employees and visitors jump-start their vehicles' dead batteries – all the while maintaining a watchful eye on activities around the building.

Mesojednik said while his top priority is always the security of the facility and the people who work there, it's easy to "go the extra mile when you work with good people."



IEMA Senior Staff Holds Strategic Planning Meeting

DuPage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Director William Babyar (far left) recently provided a tour of OHSEM's facilities in Wheaton to members of IEMA's senior staff, who were in town for a two-day strategic planning meeting. John Webber (far right, back row) facilitated discussions of the agency's vision, mission, goals and objectives.

IEMA Promoting Several Legislative Initiatives

The 2017 session of the Illinois General Assembly is underway and IEMA is promoting the following proposals:

- **IEMA Training Summit Registration (SB 489)**
As IEMA continually strives to make the best use of limited funding, the agency has worked hard to conduct its annual training summit at the lowest possible cost. However, costs continue to increase and IEMA may need to charge a small fee to cover those costs. SB 489 has been introduced to provide the authority to do so.
- **IEMA Clarification of Bio-solids (SB 1648, HB 2732)** These bills include language to clarify that Exceptional Quality bio-solids are subject to the authority of IEMA as provided in the Nuclear Safety Law of 2004.
- **Low-Level Radioactive Waste Task Group (SB 1488, HB 3048)** Due to the absence of a volunteer radioactive waste disposal site, this task force is being eliminated as it has completed all its statutory requirements.
- **Radon Task Group (HB 2719)** The Radon-Resistant Building Codes Task Force completed its statutory responsibility but the law did not provide the typical abolishment language upon completion.
- **Hazardous Material Board (HB 2733)** Seeks to abolish this board, which has the same responsibilities as the State Emergency Response Commission and is therefore, unnecessary.
- **Radiologic Technologist Accreditation Advisory Board (RTAAB)** The duties of this board will be absorbed under the existing Radiation Protection Advisory Committee, eliminating the need another advisory body.

Presentation Proposals Sought for Training Summit

Plans are underway for the 2017 IEMA Training Summit, which will be held Sept. 5-7 in Springfield. The planning committee currently is seeking presentation proposals for both the general and breakout sessions.

Breakout sessions will last 60 minutes including questions and answers. However, it's possible some 60-minute sessions could be combined for longer sessions on topics that require additional time.

Feedback from past attendees shows participants are most interested in topics that include hands-on experiences and offer takeaways, such as job aids and work tools.

Presentation proposals will be accepted through May 1. The planning committee will review all submissions and develop a program that appeals to the summit's diverse audience. No presentations that promote a speaker's products or services will be considered.

For more information about the call for presentations, visit the IEMA website at www.illinois.gov/iema.



SERC Chemical and HazMat Safety Committee Meets Feb. 1

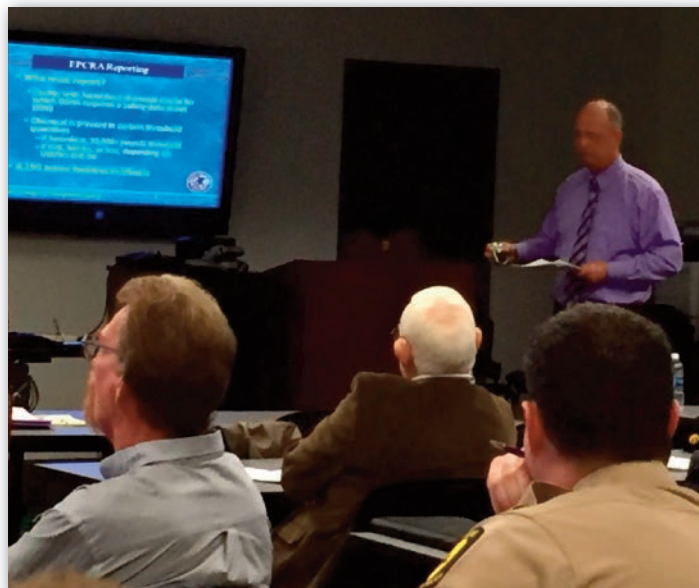
The first meeting of the newly established State Emergency Response Commission's (SERC) Chemical and Hazardous Materials Safety Committee was held Feb. 1 at the State Emergency Operations Center in Springfield. Committee members represent various state agencies, local emergency planning committees and private sector representatives who have a role in promoting hazard communications and emergency planning for chemical and hazardous materials.

IEMA is designated as the SERC under the Illinois Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (IEPCRA) and is challenged with assisting local communities to effectively plan for and respond to chemical and hazardous material emergencies.

Meeting activities included a review of agencies and organizational roles, review of federal and state laws and regulations, and a presentation from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). This presentation introduced the committee to DHS' Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) initiative. Under CFATS, facilities that have been determined by DHS to be high-risk are required to develop and implement site security plans or

alternative security programs that meet applicable risk-based performance standards.

The next meeting of the Chemical and Hazardous Material Safety Committee is scheduled for Sept. 6 during the annual IEMA Training Summit in Springfield.



Kelly Horn leads the discussion during the first meeting of the SERC's Chemical and Hazardous Material Safety Committee.

Hazardous Materials Training Classes Available

IEMA is offering three Hazardous Materials Train the Trainer classes in March. There is no charge to attend the two-day training sessions, but travel and other expenses must be paid by attendees. Classes are limited to 30 participants, so IEMA asks that only one individual from each agency register.

Class dates and locations are as follows:

March 15-16
Hanover Park Fire Department
6850 Barrington Rd.
Hanover Park
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

March 23-24
IEMA SEOC
2200 S. Dirksen Pkwy
Springfield
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

March 27-28
Carbondale Fire Department Station #2
401 N. Glenview Dr.
Carbondale
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Registration is available on the IEMA Training webpage at <https://www.illinois.gov/iema/training/pages/default.aspx>. If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Horn at (217) 558-5135 or Lori Canterbury at (217) 785-9903.

**Information and
registration for additional
training is available at
www.illinois.gov/iema.**

Apply to Join FEMA's Youth Preparedness Council

Youth across the nation have the opportunity to make a difference and transform the resilience and preparedness of their communities and beyond. Students in grades 8-11 who have engaged in community services or are interested in emergency preparedness are encouraged to apply to serve on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Youth Preparedness Council.

Formed in 2012, the council engages members in local and national emergency preparedness projects. Members are selected to serve two-year terms. Members represent the youth perspective on emergency preparedness and share information with their communities. They also meet with FEMA on a regular basis to provide ongoing input on strategies,

initiatives, and projects throughout the duration of their term.

Adults working with youth or emergency management are encouraged to share the application with youth who might be interested in applying. Applicants must submit a completed application form, two letters of recommendation and academic records.

Applications are due by March 31. For more information and to see the projects current members are working on, visit the Youth Preparedness Council website at <https://www.ready.gov/youth-preparedness-council>. To submit an application, visit the application website at <https://community.fema.gov/applytoYPC>.

Intern Assisting with Development of IEOP Annex

Efforts to develop a Long-term Community Recovery Annex to the Illinois Emergency Operations Plan (IEOP) are benefitting from the recent addition of a college intern to IEMA's Strategic Planning Cell.

Abigail Youngblood, a sophomore criminal justice and homeland security double major at MacMurray College in Jacksonville, will work with the SPC on the annex through mid-May. The internship is providing Youngblood the opportunity to broaden her emergency management experience by working with a wide variety of internal and external stakeholders

during development of the annex.

A native of Charleston, Illinois, Youngblood said she has long dreamed of helping others. She regularly volunteers with the Polar Plunge, fundraising and raising awareness for the Special Olympics, and supports Habitat for Humanity.

A draft of the Long-term Community Recovery Annex is expected to be sent out to the working groups in the near future. Youngblood will shepherd the document through the working group review process.



Director Joseph and members of his staff recently visited the Walgreen Company headquarters in Deerfield, which houses its Security Operations Center. The center is the security hub for the 8,200+ Walgreens locations across the U.S. The IEMA team met with the Global Security Services team to discuss Walgreen's response to emergencies, the assets they have that may be useful for the state, and how the state can help them prepare for and deal with an emergency.

Previous issues of Inside IEMA are available at:
<http://www.illinois.gov/iema/Info/Pages/Newsletters.aspx>.



State of Illinois
Illinois Emergency Management Agency

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